


REMARKS

To the extent that the assertions in the Notice are made extensive to the other amendments introduced in Amendment "A" and Response, Applicant traverses them as follows.

Clean Version of the Replacement Paragraph(s)/Section(s)

Item 1 in the Notice indicates that "The amendment does not include a clean version of the replacement paragraph(s)/section(s)". Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion and submits that, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(ii), a clean version of the replacement paragraph(s)/section(s) was included on p. 4 of Amendment "A" and Response. This material from Amendment "A" and Response is copied and reproduced on the following page.

Clean copy, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(ii), of the preceding marked up paragraph on page 13 of the specification:

 A conductive material 58 is formed upon contact 34 between spacers 28 within second selected pattern 17 as shown in Figure 5. The conductive material will form a contact plug 58 to contact 34. It may be desirable to clad the contact plug with a refractory metal or a refractory metal silicide 60. As such, second selected pattern 17 would have proximate thereto the refractory metal or silicide thereof prior to formation of the contact plug in contact with contact 34 as schematically shown in Figure 6.

Marked-up Version of the Replacement Paragraph(s)/Section(s)

Item 2 in the Notice indicates that “The amendment does not include a marked-up version of the replacement paragraph(s)/section(s)”. Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion and submits that, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(iii), a marked-up version of the replacement paragraph(s)/section(s) was included on p. 3 of Amendment “A” and Response. This material from Amendment “A” and Response is copied and reproduced on the following page.

At page 13, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(iii), change the text in lines 12-17 by removing portions marked below within brackets and by adding underlined portions as follows:

--A conductive material 58 is formed upon contact 34 between spacers 28 within second selected pattern 17 as shown in Figure [4] 5. The conductive material will form a contact plug 58 to contact 34. It may be desirable to clad the contact plug with a refractory metal or a refractory metal silicide 60. As such, second selected pattern 17 would have proximate thereto the refractory metal or silicide thereof prior to formation of the contact plug in contact with contact 34 as schematically shown in Figure 6.--

A Marked-up Version Does Not Have To Be Supplied
For An Added Paragraph Or A Deleted Paragraph

On page 2 of Amendment "A" and Response, Applicant amended the specification by providing the following instructions:

--IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 8, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(i), (iii), add the following text:

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Figure 5 shows the same view displayed in Figure 4 with the second selected pattern filled with a contact plug.

Figure 6 shows the same view displayed in Figure 5, where the contact plug has a layer of refractory metal or refractory metal silicide proximate thereto.--

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(iii), "[a] marked up version does not have to be supplied for an added paragraph or a deleted paragraph as it is sufficient to state that a particular paragraph has been added, or deleted." Accordingly, Applicant did not provide a marked up version of the text added as instructed above.

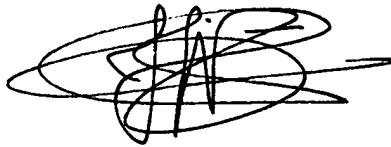
3. **CONCLUSIONS**

In view of this Response, Applicant respectfully maintains that the introduced amendments comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. Reconsideration of the assertions in items 1-2 in the Notice is requested.

In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application which could be clarified by a telephonic interview, or which is susceptible to being overcome by means of an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 14th day of May 2001.

Respectfully submitted,



Jesús Juanós i Timoneda, Ph.D.
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 43,332

WORKMAN, NYDEGGER & SEELEY
1000 Eagle Gate Tower
60 East South Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
Telephone: (801) 533-9800
Facsimile: (801) 328-1707

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